CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1508
15 May 1998

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT ISSUED ON 14 MAY 1998 BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHINA CONCERNING INDIA'S NUCLEAR TESTS

I have the honour to transmit to you the statement issued on 14 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China concerning India's nuclear tests.

I would be grateful if this statement could be circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament. Attached please find the official translation of the statement in English.

(Signed) Li Changhe
Ambassador for Disarmament Affairs
Head of the Delegation of the People's Republic of China to the CD

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
the People's Republic of China
(May 14, 1998)

In disregard of the strong opposition of the international community, the Indian government conducted two more nuclear tests on May 13 following May 11 nuclear tests. The Chinese Government is deeply shocked by this and hereby expresses its strong condemnation. This act of India's is nothing but an outrageous contempt for the common will of the international community for the comprehensive ban on nuclear tests and a hard blow on the international effort to prevent nuclear weapon proliferation. It will entail serious consequences to the peace and stability in South Asia and the world at large. The international community should adopt a common position in strongly demanding India to immediately stop the development of nuclear weapons.

The Indian government itself has undermined the international effort in banning nuclear tests in defiance of universal condemnation so as to obtain the hegemony in South Asia and triggered off nuclear arms race in the region. And yet it has maliciously accused China of posing a nuclear threat to India. This is utterly groundless. Ever since China possessed nuclear weapons, it has advocated the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and has unilaterally and unconditionally undertaken not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states and nuclear free zones. This gratuitous accusation by India against China is solely for the purpose of finding an excuse for the development of its nuclear weapons. The Chinese Government will continue to closely watch the development of the situation.

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1509
15 May 1998

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Original: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1998 ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE DISARMAMENT FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MEXICO TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE PRESS RELEASE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO CONCERNING THE CONDUCT BY INDIA OF THREE UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the International Organizations having their headquarters in Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to transmit herewith the press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Mexico concerning the conduct by the Government of India of three underground nuclear tests.

The Permanent Mission of Mexico would be grateful if the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament would take the necessary steps to have the present text circulated as a document of the Conference.

Tlatelolco, Federal District, 11 May 1998

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With reference to the announcement by the Government of India of the conduct today of three underground nuclear-weapon tests, the Government of Mexico condemns and deplores these acts, which are not conducive to the climate necessary to the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world, exacerbate regional tensions and are inconsistent with the current situation of international detente.

Mexico considers that, as has repeatedly been proposed in the United Nations, which has adopted a variety of resolutions on the matter, nuclear-weapon tests must end for all time in order to avoid unleashing a new nuclear arms race. The cessation of nuclear-weapon tests is essential for international peace and security.

Mexico will continue to strive for nuclear disarmament and for effective and progressive measures to ensure the credibility and efficacy of all aspects of the international non-proliferation regime.

This position was stated by Ms. Rosario Green, Minister for Foreign Affairs, during the meeting of the Group of Fifteen currently being held in Cairo.